

Issue NE-CW2602, released July 1, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending June 30, 2002, above normal temperatures with minimal rainfall continued to deteriorate crop conditions and accelerated wheat maturity and harvest, according to the USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Dry conditions dominated concerns in many portions of the State. Increasing grasshopper populations were also troubling. Producer activities included irrigation and harvest of wheat and hay.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County specific comments can be found at: http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged from five to ten degrees above normals across the State. Statewide, precipitation was scattered and very light, except for a few locations in the Southwest receiving an inch or better.

Field Crops Report: Corn condition declined and rated 4 percent very poor, 13 poor, 38 fair, 37 good, and 8 excellent, lower than last year and average. Irrigated corn rated 59 percent good or excellent while dryland corn rated 26. Fields were beginning to silk in the Southeast District.

Soybean condition declined significantly last week and rated 4 percent very poor, 17 poor, 44 fair, 33 good, and 2 excellent, below last year and average. A few fields were blooming in the Eastern three districts, with 4 percent of the State’s average blooming to date.

Sorghum condition declined and rated 5 percent very poor, 15 poor, 50 fair, 29 good, and 1 excellent, below last year and average.

Wheat condition declined from last week and rated 32 percent very poor, 35 poor, 18 fair, 13 good and 2 excellent and continued to trail last year and average. Last week’s hot, dry weather accelerated maturity and harvest. Twenty-seven percent was harvested by week’s end, well ahead of last year at 3 and average at 12.

Oat harvest was underway with 13 percent cut to date. Condition declined and rated 17 percent very poor, 29 poor, 33 fair, 19 good, and 2 excellent, below last year and average.

Dry beans were 86 percent emerged, behind last year’s 97 and average of 95. Condition rated 1 percent very poor, 7 poor, 42 fair, 48 good, and 2 excellent.

Proso millet planting continued to make good progress with 92 percent seeded.

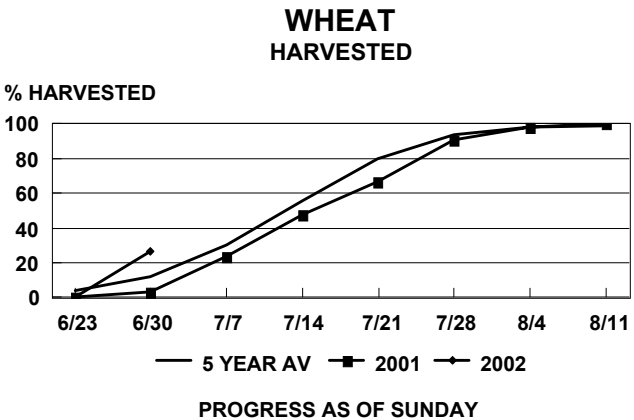
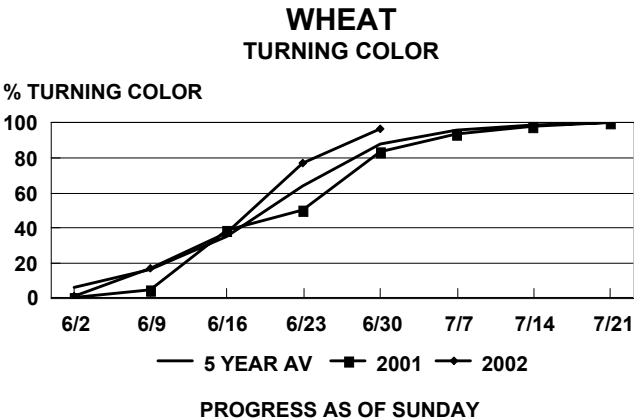
Alfalfa condition declined and rated 14 percent very poor, 29 poor, 35 fair, 21 good, and 1 excellent, well below last year and average. Statewide, 98 percent of the first cutting had been taken by week’s end, near 99 percent last year and 97 average. Second cutting activities were 25 percent completed, ahead of last year at 18 and average at 14.

Wild hay condition rated 27 percent very poor, 24 poor, 33 fair, and 16 good.

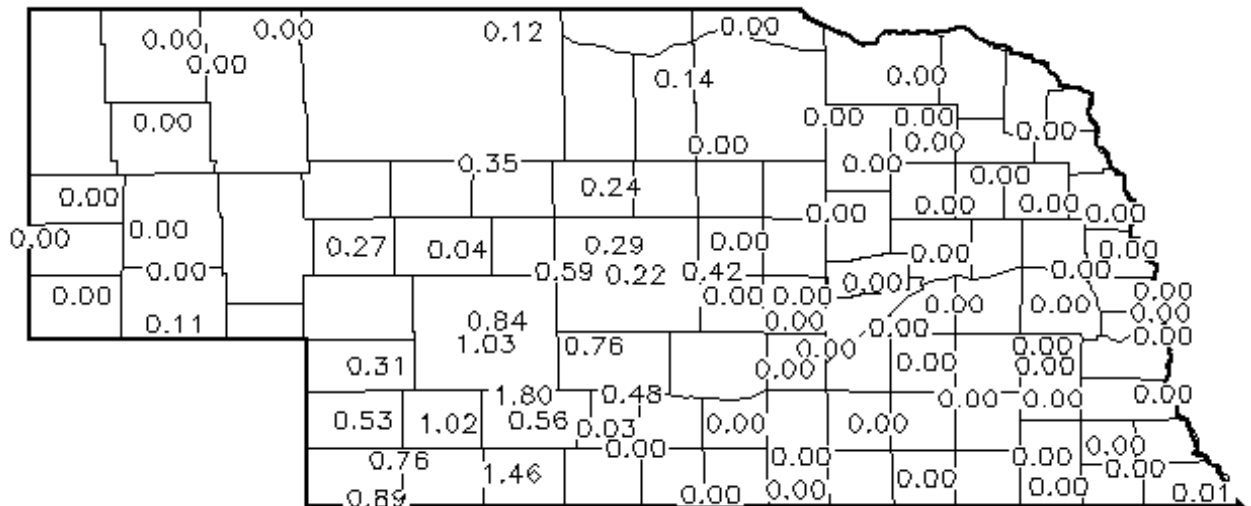
Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions continued to decline and remained below average. Statewide, condition rated 34 percent very poor, 32 poor, 26 fair, and 8 good. In the Southwest and Panhandle Districts near 90 percent of the acreage is in poor or very poor condition.

Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of June 30, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Turning Color	92	100	91	96	97	100	100	100	97	77	84	88
% Wheat Ripe	40	4	12	49	88	67	75	91	61	25	15	28
% Wheat Harvested	6	0	0	6	17	38	27	60	27	0	3	12
% Alfalfa 1 st Cutting	86	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	98	93	99	97
% Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	0	6	21	17	44	17	41	60	25	8	18	14
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.9	7.0	6.6	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.5	6.5	5.1
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	88	49	27	46	46	59	65	68	59	37	9	10
- % Short	11	47	54	53	49	27	25	30	34	36	44	22
- % Adequate	1	4	19	1	5	14	10	2	7	27	45	62
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	88	42	23	43	40	64	69	45	56	36	5	12
- % Short	12	52	51	55	53	26	18	50	37	38	32	19
- % Adequate	0	6	26	2	7	10	13	5	7	26	63	65
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending June 30, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - June 30, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.02	.10	.03	.17	.00	.75	.00	.00
Total since April 1	2.83	4.72	7.95	5.98	8.85	4.51	6.19	9.20
Normal since April 1	7.65	9.07	10.64	9.99	11.06	8.70	9.64	11.07
Total as % of normal	36%	52%	74%	60%	80%	51%	64%	83%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, June 30, 2002

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	101	58	78	9	161	940	896
	Scottsbluff	104	58	79	9	162	1007	896
	Sidney	102	58	79	9	166	1001	920
NC	Ainsworth	99	62	82	10	188	1052	995
	Arthur	99	59	79	8	171	995	970
	O'Neill	100	62	82	9	189	1085	1052
NE	Concord	95	60	79	6	186	1118	1082
	Elgin	97	64	81	7	190	1125	1084
	West Point	98	59	80	5	182	1165	1155
C	Grand Island	95	61	82	8	193	1192	1103
	Lexington	100	64	83	9	192	1212	1081
	Ord	98	61	80	7	185	1139	1091
EC	Lincoln	97	67	84	7	204	1305	1220
	Central City	93	61	79	5	187	1198	1122
	Mead	97	59	81	5	131	1198	1085
SW	Champion	102	58	79	8	167	1125	1003
	North Platte	100	59	81	9	177	1129	1014
	Curtis	100	62	81	9	183	1161	1035
SC	Arapahoe	99	56	79	8	166	1032	965
	Minden	97	64	81	8	188	1198	1085
	Red Cloud	99	65	83	9	193	1327	1118
SE	Beatrice	96	63	81	5	187	1277	1220
	Clay Center	95	62	80	6	185	1190	1115
	Nemaha	98	64	82	6	194	1340	1255

Source: High Plains Climate Center.